



500.40449X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Y. HIRA et al.  
Serial No.: 09/923,427  
Filed: August 8, 2001  
For: META AND CASE DATABASE DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION  
SYSTEM AND METHOD OF IMPLEMENTING RULE BASED  
SOLUTIONS TO CUSTOMER AND COMPANY SPECIFIC  
ENGINEERING PROBLEMS  
Group: 2129  
Examiner: N. Allen

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 18, 2006

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 21, 2006, setting a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 21, 2006, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2.

**Remarks** are included following the amendments.